GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2100
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2007
CREATION OF POST OF CDS
Prabhu Shri Suresh Prabhakar

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to create the post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and latest position in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): The Government constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) on 17th April 2000 to review the national security system in its entirety and in particular, to consider the recommendations of the Kargil review Committee, and to formulate specific proposals for its implementation.

The GoM`s report on `Reforming the National Security System` presented to the Government in February 2001 in which, amongst others, it was recommended to create the institution of Chief of Defence Staff. The Government approved the recommendations contained in the GoM report except those pertaining to institution of CDS for which it was decided that Government would take a view after consulting various political parties. Accordingly, Raksha Mantri wrote a letter to leaders of various national level political parties. Four parties have replied. Reminders have been issued to the parties who have not replied to the letter of Raksha Mantri.